

Message Text

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P 122314Z MAY 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL, OEXC, UR

SUBJECT: MINNESOTA GALLERY ART EXCHANGE

REF: STATE 103968

1. FOR REASONS THAT ARE NOT CLEAR TO US, MINCULT NOW CLAIMS THAT SHIPMENT OF ART WORKS TO MINNEAPOLIS VIA AEROFLOT CHARTER IS IMPOSSIBLE. BUTROVA TOLD SHISSLER IN TELECON WEEK AGO THAT AEROFLOT HAD INFORMED HER THAT USG WOULD NOT ALLOW AEROFLOT CHARTER TO MINNEAPOLIS IN AUGUST. SHISSLER CALLED DEPARTMENT AND WE ADVISED HER THAT THERE IS NO OBSTACLE TO CHARTER--AEROFLOT NEED ONLY APPLY TO CAB AND FLIGHT WILL BE APPROVED. SHISSLER SENT COMMERCIAL CABLE ADVISING BUTROVA THAT CHARTER WOULD POSE NO PROBLEM.

2. SINCE MODE OF TRANSPORTATION AND RESPONSIBILITY FOR INSURANCE MUST BE KNOWN TO MAKE INDEMNIFICATION ARRANGEMENTS, MUSEUM NEEDS CONFIRMATION THAT SHIPMENT WILL BE BY AEROFLOT CHARTER TO MINNEAPOLIS. INDEMNIFICATION BOARD
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NOW SCHEDULED TO MEET MAY 21. MUSEUM NEEDS DIRECT CONFIRMATION FROM MINCULT, EITHER BY CABLE OR TELEPHONE, CONCERNING SHIPMENT. WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE ANY CLARIFICATION EMBASSY CAN PROVIDE.

3. ANOTHER UNCLEAR MATTER IS AVAILABILITY OF MGU ART HISTORIAN SARABIANOV TO TEACH FULL 10-WEEK COURSE AT

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA IN FALL. FALL REGISTRATION IS NOW IN PROCESS AND UNIVERSITY IS CONCERNED THAT COURSE ENROLLMENT WILL BE SERIOUSLY AFFECTED IF COURSE IS NOT ANNOUNCED FORTHWITH. UNIVERSITY HOPES MINCULT WILL SEE DESIRABILITY OF WELL-ATTENDED COURSE IN RUSSIAN 19TH CENTURY PAINTING AS ADJUNCT TO EXHIBITION.

4. ALSO NEED DATES FOR ULANOVA AND KABALEVSKY. ST. PAUL CHAMBER ORCHESTRA AND MINNESOTA DANCE THEATER COMPANY MUST ANNOUNCE DATES FOR FALL PROGRAM TO SUBSCRIBERS.
VANCE

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